

Amendments to the Abstract:

~~The invention relates to a~~ A triggering unit for initiating pyrotechnical elements. ~~The inventive unit comprises~~ includes a control component, a rectifier (12), an energy store (15), a voltage regulator (13), a data coupling device (11), a current limiter and a suppressor circuit (10). ~~The aim of the invention is to~~ To enable an up to now unknown variety of variants pertaining to characteristics and functionality without having to change the hard ware or the design of the chip. ~~To this end, the~~ control component is a programmable microprocessor (10) with an integrated program memory.